

Message Text

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15

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-25 SAJ-01 SPC-03 AID-20 EB-11

NSC-10 RSC-01 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-08 OMB-01

CEA-02 COME-00 AGR-20 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03

PRS-01 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 H-03

DRC-01 L-03 /153 W

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Z 290515Z SEP 73 ZFF4

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 7074

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 11444

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID IN

SUBJ: SOVIET GRAIN LOAN TO INDIA

REF: STATE 193569

1. GOI OFFICIALS WHOM EMBASSY WAS ABLE TO REACH BY 0830 THIS MORNING, CONFIRM THAT THE SOVIET UNION HAS AGREED TO SUPPLY INDIA WITH TWO MILLION TONS OF GRAIN ON A LOAN BASIS.

2. SOVIET OFFER TO PROVIDE THE GRAIN WAS MADE IN A PERSONAL COMMUNICATION FROM GENERAL SECRETARY BREZHNEV TO PRIME MINISTER GANDHI. THE OFFER WHICH THE INDIANS DESCRIBE AS "UNSOLICITED" INCLUDES AN UNSPECIFIED QUANTITY OF RICE WHICH GOI OFFICIALS SAY WILL BE SMALL ALTHOUGH THE EXACT QUANTITY OF RICE INVOLVED IS YET TO BE DETERMINED.

3. GOI OFFICIALS SAY THAT MANY DETAILS OF THE AGREEMENT ARE TO BE WORKED OUT LATER. THEY EXPECT SHIPMENT OF THE GRAIN TO INDIA TO BEGIN SOON. THE EXACT SOURCE OF THE GRAIN HAS NOT BEEN DETERMINED. IT IS EXPECTED THAT MOST OR ALL OF THE

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GRAIN WILL COME FROM THE SOVIET UNION ALTHOUGH GOI OFFICIALS

HOPE IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO DIVERT TO INDIA SOME SOVIET GRAIN
NOW IN TRANSIT FROM THIRD COUNTRIES.

4. THE ARRANGEMENT FOR OBTAINING GRAIN FROM THE SOVIET
UNION ARE AT PRESENT ON A LOAN BASIS, HOWEVER, GOI OFFICIALS
SAY THAT FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS MAY RESULT IN SOME OF THE GRAIN
BEING PURCHASED ON A COMMERCIAL BASIS.

5. CONTRARY TO INDIAN STATEMENTS, INDIANS REPEATEDLY ASKED
SOVIETS FOR GRAIN THIS SUMMER. SOVIETS WERE NEGATIVE BUT
INDIANS CONTINUED REQUESTS.

6. EMBASSY WILL REPORT FURTHER DETAILS AS INFORMATION
BECOMES AVAILABLE.
SCHNEIDER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973NEWDE11444
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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30 JUN 2005

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